

AUTHOR'S PREFACE TO THE PRESENT EDITION

On the morning of October 10, 1942, a ship steamed up the Mersey 000 River carrying British and other European repatriates from the Far East recently exchanged for Japanese from the British Empire. For more than three weeks since the ship had left Capetown no radio broadcast had been received aboard. Suddenly down the passages and companionways the voice of the British Broadcasting Corporation was heard. It announced the relinquishment by Great Britain and the United States of the extra-territorial rights held by these countries in China. For everyone on the ship the moment was symbolic. The 18,000-mile repatriation journey's end, at the end of a residence in China, coincided with the end of an era. To those who considered that the special privileges were overdue for abrogation the news was welcome.

Final page proofs of the first edition of this book which had covered 128 the situations it describes down to the middle of 1941, were ready in 722 Shanghai when Pacific hostilities broke out on December 8, 1941. The British printing plant in which it was being published was closed by Japanese orders and remained so until May 1942. Thereafter its operations under Japanese supervision were permitted providing nothing was published without the approval of the Japanese Press Bureau. Consent to the appearance of the first edition was finally given on condition that all references to foreign countries were excised. The final chapter had originally made mention of recent progressive moves in industrially backward countries on the part of Great Britain. These were removed without in any way compromising the thesis of the book. All references to the Institute of Pacific Relations under whose auspices the book was to appear were also eliminated. The publication appeared at the beginning of August 1942, as a document of the Shanghai Municipal Council, but the Japanese Press Bureau would not permit its sale.

For the first eight months after the outbreak of hostilities the Shanghai Municipal Council's Industrial and Social Division went on 114 under my direction. Indeed, some unusual opportunities presented themselves for progressive social developments, arising from the need for emergency measures aimed to control the factors affecting the people's livelihood. I resigned my post to return home, leaving Shanghai on August 17, 1942. For me thus ended a period which had begun in January 1933, during which I had the privilege of building up a

114 Division aiming to serve the people. The work was relinquished with great regret and only because changed administrative controls made it necessary to do so.

128 This second edition of the monograph has been prepared at the request of the Institute of Pacific Relations. It speaks now in the past tense. It aims at viewing in perspective the ten-year experiment in creating an administrative social instrument in one of China's major cities and in assessing its usefulness as a pattern. The kind of industrial and social services that a Chinese city will need to meet the problems that will persist into the future is suggested in the body of the text and in a new final chapter. In the re-writing there has been kept in mind the possible value which the record may also have for those who, of whatever nationality, will take part in post-war rehabilitation and reconstruction measures in which the understanding of social situations will be important.

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